



Steering Committee Meeting State Scenic and Recreational Highway Plan

December 8th, 2009, 1:00 – 5:00 PM

WSDOT's Northwest Region Cafeteria Conference Room

15700 Dayton Ave. North, Shoreline, WA 98133-5910

Conference Call/Go-To-Meeting: 206-440-4004 access code 1073606

Meeting Summary

Attendance

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Betsy Grabel, Office of Tourism, Washington State Department of Commerce
Greg Griffith, State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Ruth Harvey, Association of Washington Counties
Maree Lerchen, Local Byway Group Representative
Bonnie Lippitt, US Forest Service
Annette Nesse, Tribal Transportation Planning Organization
Randy Person, Washington State Parks
Paula Reeves, WSDOT Highways and Local Programs

Steering Committee Members Absent:

Cascade Bicycle Club/Local Byway Group Representative
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Association of Washington Cities
Office of Growth Management, Washington State Department of Commerce
FHWA
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Washington State Transportation Commission
MPO/RTPO Coordinating Committee

Other Interested Parties Attending in Person or via phone/web:

Sally Anderson, WSDOT Design Office
Victorah Arsenian, Northwest Tribal Tourism/Pacific Coast Scenic Byway
Cindy Bjorklund, Private Citizen Representing North Cascades Scenic Byway
Ken Caylor, Local Byway Group Representative
Charlotte, Claybrooke, WSDOT Highways and Local Programs
Vicki Cummings, GHCOG and Hidden Coast Scenic Byway
Liz Illg, San Juan Islands Scenic Byway
Leslie Johnson, Northwest Tribal Tourism/Pacific Coast Scenic Byway
Curt Warber, Private Citizen
Elizabeth Sjostrum, WSDOT NW Region

Introduction

Paula Reeves, WSDOT, called the meeting to order, thanked the attendees for traveling to the meeting, asked for public comment, and asked for feedback on the meeting summary from the September 24th Steering Committee Meeting. She introduced WSDOT Staff present and welcomed everyone to WSDOT NW Region Office.

The Steering Committee reviewed and approved the September 24th Meeting Summary with one change to the list of attendees.

The WSDOT staff gave a background presentation on Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways Plan Update including a recap of the requirements, timeline, content of the state statutes, and discussion of purpose. Paula Reeves, WSDOT, led a group discussion of the primary elements of Scenic and Recreational Highways including: travel experience and services; stewardship, planning and integration. The Steering Committee revised goal statements for Scenic and Recreational Highways as they relate to the State Transportation Policy Goals for Safety and Environment. The Steering Committee spent the balance of the meeting discussing and brainstorming potential goals and performance measures for the Scenic and Recreational Highways associated with each of the five State Transportation Policy Goals.

Presentation materials are available on the Plan Update website:
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/ScenicByways/BywaysPlan.htm>

Steering Committee Discussion

Following the presentation, meeting attendees spent the majority of the meeting discussing the goals and performance measures for the Scenic and Recreational Highways associated with each of the five State Transportation Policy Goals. The following is a complete list of the goals and performance measures that Committee discussed.

SAFETY

Goal:

Increase traveler safety, traveler services, and public access on Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways.

Performance Measures/Benchmarks/Outputs/Tasks:

- Safety in the plans
- Design of waysides, pullouts
- Pre-trip planning has a safety component – website, materials, knowing where you are going
- speeds

ENVIRONMENT

Goal:

Plan for, protect, preserve, and enhance resources associated with the State's Scenic and Recreational Highways.

Performance Measures/Benchmarks/Outputs/Tasks:

- Active Byway groups and other local groups that support protection of the environment
- Materials about importance of protecting environment
- Communication/coordination with other levels of government about protection of resources
- Number of scenic easements, agreements in place for protection
- Partnership – number of partners (governmental and non-gov)
- Use of "context sensitive design" on these routes
- Byway groups evaluating economic vitality (applying economic assessment tool) – reference healthy communities

STEWARDSHIP

Goal:

No goal statement developed

Performance Measures/Benchmarks/Outputs/Tasks:

- Laws, regs, ordinances that encourage long term viability of the corridor (zoning, sign ordinances)
- Maintenance MOUs
- Maintain scenic vistas act through billboard enforcement
- Include local governments in groups
- Benchmark conditions through inventories pavement, bridges, signs – compare with highway system
- Consider historic alignments trade off for speed
- Include rest areas, signage, pullouts
- Mitigation – use to support byways

PRESERVATION

Goal:

No goal statement developed

Performance Measures/Benchmarks/Outputs/Tasks:

- Including access to resources, rest stops, pull outs, bridges
- Extend the life of the byways through alignment with RCW list
- Historic transportation features added to stewardship index
- Note: possible duplication with stewardship

MOBILITY

Goal:

No goal statement developed

Performance Measures/Benchmarks/Outputs/Tasks:

- Wayfinding signs and materials
- Weather and road condition information
- Cell phone and data coverage on these routes (measure)
- Bicycle mobility: maintenance
- Level of service (congestion measures) including recreational travel
- Multi-modal transportation options and parking areas or intermodal centers
- Slow vehicle pullouts
- Speed on these routes
- Cooperative integration of freight mobility
- Intelligent Transportation Systems – example wait for key sites
- Railroad routes – other modes

Public Comment Period

No formal public comments were made. In response to a question about the effort to develop a “Stewardship Index”, Paula Reeves noted that a draft version of the index would be posted to the website the week of December 14th for review and comment.

Closing Comments – Next Meeting

Ruth Harvey, King County and Association of Washington Counties, suggested that we set a final meeting for the Steering Committee when the final draft of the Plan is prepared. Information about Public Hearings on the Draft Plan will be posted to the website soon. The final Steering Committee Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, Feb. 9th, 2010** from approximately 1pm to 5pm at WSDOT's Headquarters Office in Olympia. More information to follow. The Steering Committee adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:15pm.